

COMBINED DISTRICT COUNCILS.

GUISBOROUGH UNION.

REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1907,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

W. W. STAINTHORPE, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
GUISBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
GUISBOROUGH URBAN " "
LOFTUS " "
REDCAR " "
SALTBURN " "
SKELTON & BROTTON " "

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my report for the year ending December 31st, 1907.

Birth and Death Rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 1446 (774 males, 672 females); birth rate 28·63. The number of deaths was 682 (376 males, 306 females); death rate 13·50. The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births was 107·1; per 1,000 illegitimate it was 184·4.

Scarlet Fever.

Cases notified, 93 :—Deaths, nil.

The number of cases reported during each quarter of the year is shown in the following Table :—

District.	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Totals.	Number of Houses Infected.
Guisborough Rural ...	2	0	0	1	3	3
Guisborough Urban ...	12	0	2	0	14	12
Loftus " ...	9	8	5	14	36	26
Redcar " ...	15	4	5	4	28	20
Saltburn " ...	0	1	0	0	1	1
Skelton & Brotton Urban	0	1	8	2	11	8

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

The number of cases notified during each quarter of the year was as follows :—

Cases notified, 155; Deaths, 21.

District.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Number of Houses Infected.
Guisborough Rural ...	14	8	14	11	40
Guisborough Urban ...	2	0	0	3	5
Loftus Urban ...	6	10	17	24	44
Redcar Urban ...	6	2	4	20	25
Saltburn Urban ...	0	0	0	0	0
Skelton and Brotton ...	8	3	3	0	11

For the first time, since the Notification Act was adopted, the number of cases of diphtheria exceeded that of scarlet fever. It is to be admitted that the number of cases of scarlet fever was much below the average of the previous ten years. During the ten years 1897-1906 the number of cases of diphtheria averaged 40 per year. During the first five of those years the average was 13·5—during the second five 66·5, a considerable increase. Only a very small part of this can be attributed to increased population. An examination of the mortality Tables shows that during the first five years 31 per cent. of the cases notified were fatal, whilst in the second five the case mortality was 17 per cent. There is no doubt that a portion of the increase is more apparent than real. Numbers of mild cases occur in which the clinical symptoms are insufficient in themselves to warrant their being reported as diphtheria. Most of these before the adoption of the bacteriological test were not notified. This in part also explains the lower case mortality rate during recent years. But only in part, for there appears to be little doubt that the mortality rate has been decreased by the “serum” treatment. It would be of great benefit to the public health if experiments were made for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent, if any, the serum treatment reduces the period during which a patient remains infective, and whether it has any effect upon the pathogenic properties of the specific bacilli.

It will be noted that of the 155 cases reported 136 occurred in the three districts—Loftus (57), Guisborough rural (47), Redcar (32). Of these in Loftus 47 were in Loftus proper, 8 at Liverton Mines, and 2 in Skinningrove; none either at Carlin-How or Old Liverton. Of the 47 in the Guisborough rural 31 occurred at New Marske and 7 at Marske. Not a single case occurred at Warrenby in the Redcar district. I desire to draw special attention to the detached parts of the Loftus and Redcar districts which were completely free from the disease. In each of the places mentioned, Old Liverton, Carlin-How and Warrenby there is a school. In other words the children living in these places do not go to any of the schools in the affected parts of the districts. At New Marske there is a school which is attended only by children living there and in the near neighbourhood.

In Redcar no case was notified between October 7th and November 11th. Of the 32 cases during the year 19 were reported between November 11th and December 29th. Of the 19 patients, 11 attended one school, the earliest case of this series being that reported on November 11th. Between the date of closure of the school mentioned, for the Christmas holiday, and the time of writing this (January 10th, 1908) five cases have been notified, three of these in a house previously infected; enquiries concerning the other two showed that illness in each case commenced before the holidays. *When the school was closed the disease ceased to spread.* In Loftus no case has been reported since December 22nd. Here also the disease ceased with school closure. Again in the two places in the Guisborough rural district, Marske and New Marske, in which cases of diphtheria existed in December no case occurred during the holiday. These facts confirm the opinion I have expressed on several occasions, that the most potent factor in the spread of diphtheria is ‘school attendance.’ There is not the slightest doubt that frequently children attend school during the early stage of the disease. Often, on making enquiries at the homes of patients I am told “the child was not well for a few days but *it went to school*, then it got worse and we sent for the doctor.”

Enteric Fever.

Cases notified, five :—death, one.

Two of the cases occurred in the Redcar urban district and one each in the Guisborough rural, Guisborough urban and the Skelton and Brotton urban districts. In no case was I able to trace the source of infection. Nor were there any local conditions to which the disease could be directly or indirectly attributed.

Diarrhœal Diseases.

Deaths : Diarrhœa—2.
 „ Enteritis, &c.—1.
 „ Gastritis, &c.—9.

These may be termed filth diseases caused by the ingestion of micro-organisms, which have their habitat in filth, either direct or through food contaminated thereby. Their greater or less prevalence depends to a great extent upon meteorological conditions. Hence the number of deaths due to diarrhœal diseases varies very considerably from year to year. A high tempera-

ture favours the growth and multiplication of the organisms and a dry season their dispersion. A comparatively low summer temperature and frequent rainfall, such as was experienced during the past summer and autumn, is beneficial in so far as it reduces the mortality from these diseases. These conditions have another effect,—they are antagonistic to the multiplication of house flies which act as carriers of filth and its contained micro-organisms. It is during the autumn that diarrhœa prevails most, hence the name “autumn diarrhœa.” This is the time of the invasion of houses by flies. The conditions, the presence of filth and a high temperature, which favour the growth of the organisms also tend to increase their virulence. The determining factors, heat and drought are beyond control, but by the removal of filth, by cleanliness of houses within and without, by purity of air, water, and soil we may hope to starve out the organisms, or at least to so lower their vitality as to reduce if not destroy their pathogenic powers.

Measles.

Fatal cases :— 20.

This disease was epidemic in the following places :—

Guisbrough urban district :—Guisborough.

Loftus ,, Loftus, Liverton Mines, Skinningrove.

Skelton & Brotton ,, Lingdale.

Redcar ,, Zetland school.

Guisborough rural ,, Lazenby, Easington, Yearby, Westerdale.

The schools at these places were closed for periods varying from three to five weeks. As a means of preventing the spread of measles school-closure is of doubtful utility. In debating whether or not to recommend school-closure other points demand consideration. During an epidemic it is certain that the disease will be introduced into elementary schools in the affected district by children suffering from it in its early stage. So long as a school remains open children are compelled to attend and are thus brought into contact with infected children in an infected place. Again, owing to the great pressure brought to bear on head teachers and attendance officers by local education authorities to enforce attendance for the purpose of maintaining and improving the “average attendance grant,” children recovering from measles sometimes return to school before they are in a fit condition to do so with safety to themselves and their fellow scholars.

It frequently happens that I do not become aware of the prevalence of measles in a district or some part of it until the attendance at school has been so considerably reduced as to necessitate closure on that ground alone.

School closure is sometimes opposed on the grounds that the spread of the disease is just as likely to occur by contact between the infected and the healthy in the streets or playground as in the school. A little consideration will show that this argument does not hold good. In a school the children are in close contact with each other for considerable periods and under conditions which increase susceptibility to and chance of infection,—in streets and playgrounds the conditions are totally different. Apart from this, a careful parent can take steps to prevent his children coming in contact with the infected whilst the school is closed but cannot do so when it is open.

At the present time the attendance grant is based on the average attendance of the whole of the children of whatever age or in whatever standard. Were the regulations of the Board of Education so altered as to permit of the grant being based upon the average attendance of children over a certain age, say seven, or in the standards corresponding to that age, as distinct and separate from those under that age, or in the lower standards, the disadvantages attending the closure of a school would be materially reduced. It would still be open to the health officer to recommend the closure of the whole of a school, as he would probably do in rural districts where the scholars came from several hamlets.

Another argument in favour of the suggested alteration in the regulations may be mentioned. In small urban and in rural districts inclement weather considerably reduces the average attendance owing to the absence of very young children, those in the infant classes, children that it would be dangerous or cruel to expose to storms or extreme cold.

A calculation, based on the average attendances, shows that owing to the closure of the schools mentioned the period of the education of some 3500 children was curtailed by 4 weeks.

Tubercular Diseases.

Forty-two deaths were certified as due to pulmonary consumption and twenty-seven to other forms of tuberculosis. Forty-five rooms which had been occupied by patients suffering from consumption were disinfected by the officials of the Councils.

Three cases of phthisis were notified, voluntarily. The house occupied by one of the patients was found to be overcrowded :—a notice served to abate the over-crowding was complied with by removal into another house.

The death rate from tubercular diseases in the several districts was as follows :—

Guisborough rural	1·01,	average during years 1902-1906,	1·50.
„ urban	2·22,	„ „	0·90.
Loftus „	1·00,	„ „	1·14.
Redcar „	0·93,	„ „	1·06.
Saltburn „	1·35,	„ „	1·21.
Skelton & Brotton urban	1·73,	„ „	1·71.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

This Act, which is adoptive, bestows on district councils largely increased powers. It consists of ten Parts. Part III, containing 17 clauses, pertains to sanitary matters; Part IV (17 clauses) relates to matters connected with the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases. There are sections in other Parts of the Act which bear more or less on sanitation.

Under Sect. 25 (Part II) a local authority can enforce the effectual drainage of the subsoil or surface of a house yard to a proper outfall. Hitherto on a yard being reported as defective the authority could only require the abatement of the nuisance caused. Too frequently the work carried out has been of such a nature as to lead to temporary abatement only.

Under Sect. 35 rain water pipes so defective as to cause dampness in a building, or material so deposited as cause the same, can be dealt with as a nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1875.

Sections 36 and 37 prohibit a rain water pipe being used as a soil-pipe or as a ventilating shaft to a drain.

Under Sect. 39 the local authority can enforce the provision of a water-closet in a new building where “there are a sufficient water supply and sewer.” It can also, conditionally, require any existing closet accommodation to be converted into a water closet. In the event of the necessary work not being carried out by the owner it can be done by the authority—in such case the cost thereof is borne by the authority, in full if the closet converted was of the “pail” form, if of any other type the owner is to pay half.

Sect. 45 provides for the testing of drains, under certain conditions, by the local authority.

Sect. 46 provides for the filling up of a well, disused well, cesspool, refuse receptacle, or drain, if such be prejudicial to health or otherwise objectionable for sanitary reasons.

Sections 53 and 54 enlarge the powers of a council in dealing with infectious diseases attributable to milk supplied within the district.

Sect. 54 prohibits the sending of infected clothing to a public laundry unless it has been previously disinfected.

Sect. 57 provides that no child who is or has been suffering from infectious disease or has been exposed to infection is to be permitted to attend school until a certificate has been granted by the medical officer of health that it may do so.

Sect. 59 makes provision for preventing the spread of infection by books from a public or circulating library.

Sect. 60 legalises the remission of the cost of maintenance of a patient in a hospital.

Sect. 67 (1) reads—“The local authority may provide nurses for attendance on patients “suffering from any infectious disease in their district who, owing to want of accommodation “at the hospital or danger of infection, cannot be removed to the hospital, or in cases where “removal to the hospital is likely to endanger the patient’s health.”

Factory and Workshop Act.

Workshops :—			Guisbro' Rural.	Guisbro' Urban.	Loftus Urban.	Redcar Urban.	Saltburn Urban.	Skelton and Brotton Urban.
Dressmakers	...	...	14	7	10	5	8	14
Tailors	...	...	3	5	5	6	2	5
Shoemakers	...	...	9	7	4	7	4	14
Bakers	...	...	2	3	4	8	7	
Blacksmiths	...	...	10	4	3	4	2	3
Printers	...	...			1	1		
Milliners	...	...		1	5	2	1	4
Carpenters	...	...	11	8	8	13	6	8
Plumbers	...	...		1	1	3	3	
Saddlers	...	...	1	2	2	1	1	1
Tinsmiths	...	...		2		1	1	
Laundries	...	...			1			
Workplaces	...	...				16		
Ice-Cream Makers	...	...		2		3		
Cycle Repairers	...	...				2	1	
Coachbuilders	...	...					1	
Leather-dressers	...	...		1				
Confectionery Makers	...	...		1				
Roperies	...	...		1				
<u>Factories :—</u>								
Brick and Tile Works	...	...	1					
Printers	...	...		2		3	1	
Carpenters and Builders	...	...		1	1	2	1	
Gas Works	...	...		1	1	1		1
Aerated Water Works	...	...		1	2	1	1	
Laundries	...	...		1			1	
Cycle Repairing Works	...	...			1		1	
Electric Supply Works	...	...					1	
Founders	...	...		1	1			
Sawmills	...	...		1	1			
Whitesmiths	...	...				1		
Miller	...	...					1	
Outworkers	...	...				1		
Totals	...	...	51	53	51	81	44	50 — 330

Of the 330 workshops, workplaces and factories, 320 were inspected by me.

Under Section 133 of the Act I forwarded seven notices to the Factory Inspector.

Informal notices as follows were served :—

On a laundry proprietor—to provide more efficiently for the carrying off of water from the floor of the wash-house.

On a baker—to cleanse and maintain the cleanliness of the bake-house.

On an ice-cream maker—to cleanse and maintain cleanliness of the place in which the manufacture of the ice-cream is carried on.

Notices were also served on the owners of six restaurants to provide efficient means for carrying off the fumes from gas cooking stoves.

Gas Cooking Stoves.

When making ordinary and special inspections during the past year I have been struck with the large increase in the number of gas cooking stoves used in private houses. In by far the larger number of instances no provision is made for carrying off the deleterious gases given off when these stoves are used. A bye-law compelling such provision is required.

The Disinfection and Cleansing of Schools.

Having reported it to be very desirable that the systematic disinfection of schools should, whether infectious disease were prevalent or not, form part and parcel of school-cleansing, I was instructed to communicate this to the Local Education Authority. The following arguments were adduced in favour of its adoption.

(1) Of all factors in the spread of those infectious diseases to which children are particularly susceptible "school influence" is the chief.

(2) It frequently happens that children attend school whilst in an infectious condition, or act as intermediaries by carrying infective matter in their clothing.

(3) During an epidemic or even the lesser prevalence of infectious disease a school may, and no doubt often does, become an infected place.

(4) Certain only of the infectious diseases are notifiable :—there are others less dangerous, but none the less to be avoided.

(5) Few districts remain absolutely free from one or other of the infectious diseases for any length of time.

(6) The washing of floors with carbolic soap affects that part of the interior only :—it has no effect on the walls, furniture, etc.

Some improvement in the method of school-cleaning is required. In the ordinary way when the floors are swept, even if damp sawdust or sand be used, a large amount of dust is raised, this settles on walls, maps, desks, seats, etc. The wiping of the seats and desks raises another cloud of dust to again settle. In fact the finer dust is simply moved from one part of the schoolroom to another. This could be obviated to a large extent by the use of a "vacuum" or "aspirator" machine. When it is realized that a considerable part of a child's life, and that at a time when it is most impressionable physically as well as mentally, is spent at school the necessity of its school environment being such as shall not be prejudicial in any way needs no argument.

Elementary Schools.

The playground attached to the school at Easington was found to be in a bad condition, rain-water accumulating thereon in pools. The surface has been levelled but the state of this playground will never be satisfactory until its surface is of impervious material. I reported to the Local Education Authority that the closet accommodation at the Zetland (Council) school, Redcar, was inadequate and otherwise unsatisfactory and that the playground attached to the infant school required to be walled in to prevent the children going on to adjoining land on which at times nomads congregate in tents and vans. A reply was received that both matters were having attention.

It would be well if all plans of structural alterations of school buildings were submitted to the health officer for an expression of opinion. Twice I have noted the substitution of pan closets for some other type where it appeared to me that it would have been wiser to have adopted the water carriage system. Under Sect. 39 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Councils who have adopted this Act can, where there is "a sufficient water supply and sewer" enforce the provision or the substitution of water-closets. The attention of the Local Education Authority and of Managers of non-provided schools should be drawn to this.

Housing of the Working Classes Act.

Under this Act I certified six houses as being unfit for habitation,—two in the Guisborough urban district, two in the Redcar and two in the Skelton & Brotton. Five of these have been repaired, the sixth the owner intends to pull down.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

The following list shows the number of these on the Register in each of the districts and the number inspected by me during the year.

District.	Registered.	Inspected.
Guisborough Rural	... 46	... 42
Guisborough Urban	... 27	... 25
Loftus ,,	... 27	... 27
Redcar ,,	... 22	... 22
Skelton and Brotton Urban	... 27	... 27
Saltburn Urban	... 6	... 6
	155	149

Scattered as these cowsheds are over a wide area, often some distance from the main road, their supervision is difficult. The majority were found in fairly good, some in excellent, condition. In several instances it was found necessary to call the attention of the occupier to the need of cleansing the roof of the shed. Many are lighted by glass in the roof, if proper cleansing is not carried out the lighting is impaired. More attention requires to be paid to the conditions under which the process of milking is carried out.

When reporting the existence of some condition which is or may be prejudicial to health the question is sometimes asked,—is there much fever in that part of the district? Apparently the opinion prevails that the chief duty of the health officer is to enquire into and deal with infectious diseases. This is not so. The larger part is to maintain such an oversight of his district as to keep himself informed of conditions injurious to health existing therein and to advise upon the measures to be adopted for the *improvement and protection* of the health of the people. His chief concern is with conditions which by slowly undermining health render the individual an easy prey to disease, specific and non-specific alike. The best means of combating disease and premature death is the maintainance of the highest possible degree of health. This cannot be too strongly urged. In waging war against disease the tendency in the present day is to attack and that in the dark, the foe being unseen, rather than to defend. A wasteful way of waging war.

But if the object aimed at, a high degree of health, is to be attained the active co-operation of the individual is imperative. This also cannot be too strongly insisted on. A local authority may provide pure water, efficient sewers, systematic scavenging, enforce its powers under the various Health Acts, &c. To what end if the individual is uncleanly in house and person, if he sleeps in rooms hermetically sealed, if his food is ill-selected and improperly cooked. Year by year the powers of district councils are strengthened and enlarged. Desirable though this may be does it not tend to decrease the responsibility of the individual by fostering the idea that his state of health depends upon conditions beyond his control.

Birth and Death Rates.
Table A shows these rates in the several Districts.
A.

	Guisbro' Rural.	Guisbro' Urban.	Loftus Urban.	Redcar Urban.	Saltburn Urban.	Skelton and Brotton Urban.	Totals and Means.
Population	7900	6000	7500	11,000	3700	14,400	50,500
Number of births	M. 118 F. 82 200	M. 121 F. 94 215	M. 112 F. 112 224	M. 149 F. 123 272	M. 30 F. 37 67	M. 244 F. 224 468	M. 774 F. 672 1446
Birth Rate	25·31	35·83	34·24	25·28	18·10	32·50	28·63
Average for years 1897-1906	29·38	31·94	34·24	25·28	17·61	33·99	
Number of deaths... ..	M. 65 F. 39 104	M. 55 F. 44 99	M. 54 F. 58 112	M. 77 F. 46 123	M. 14 F. 24 38	M. 111 F. 95 206	M. 376 F. 306 682
Death Rate	13·16	16·50	14·93	11·18	10·27	14·30	13·50
Average for years 1897-1906	14·63	16·06	14·74	14·21	10·49	15·48	
Proportion of Deaths in children under 1 year of age to each 1000 births ...	75·0	120·9	151·5	106·9	132·8	91·8	107·8
Average for years 1897-1906	149·5	132·7	134·5	122·3	77·2	150·5	
Proportion of Deaths in children under 5 years of age to each 100 deaths ...	24·1	39·3	44·6	26·8	26·3	39·3	34·8
Infectious diseases death rate	1·26	1·17	2·01	0·18	0	1·25	1·08
Diarrhoeal diseases death rate	0	0	0·66	0·27	0	0·20	0·21

Infectious Diseases.
Table B shows the number of these notified in each
of the Districts.
B.

	Gisbro' Rural.	Gisbro' Urban.	Loftus Urban.	Redcar Urban.	Saltb'rn Urban.	Skelton and Brotton Urban.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	3	14	36	28	1	11	93
Diphtheria... ..	47	5	57	32	0	14	155
Enteric Fever ...	1	1	0	2	0	1	5
Erysipelas... ..	5	14	19	2	0	14	54
Puerperal Fever ...	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
TOTALS ...	56	34	114	64	1	40	309

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1907.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Gisbro' Rural.	Gisbro' Urban.	Loftus.	Redcar.	Saltburn	Skelton and Brotton	Totals.
All Causes.	Certified ... ..	...	...	13	26	34	29	9	43	154
	Uncertified ... ..	...	...	2						2
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox ... ..	...	...					
	Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...					
	Measles ... ..	...	...	2	1	2			2	7
	Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...					
	Diphtheria : Croup ... ..	...	...		1					1
	Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...			2			3	5
ii. Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms ... ..	...	...			1	1			2
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, } Gastro-enteritis }	...	...				1			1
	Gastritis, Gastro intestinal Catarrh					4	2		3	9
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	2	7	3	7	1	12	32
	Congenital Defects ... ..	...	...	1	4	6	4		3	18
	Injury at Birth ... ..	...	...					
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation									
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	...	...	2	3		3	3	7	18
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...		1					1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : } Tabes Mesenterica }	...	...				1		3	4
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...				1			1
v. Other Causes.	Erysipelas ... ..	...	...					
	Syphilis ... ..	...	...					
	Rickets ... ..	...	...			2				2
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...	...	...	1	1		1	2		5
	Convulsions ... ..	...	...	4	2	4		1	1	12
	Bronchitis ... ..	...	...		1	7	4	1	7	20
	Laryngitis ... ..	...	...					
	Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	3	5	1		1	1	11
	Suffocation, overlying ... ..	...	...				1			1
	Other causes... ..	...	...			2	3		1	6
				15	26	64	29	9	43	156

Mortality Statistics.

The Mortality Tables show that :—

(1) Of the number of deaths in the several districts the per-centage in children under five years of age varied between 24·1 and 44·6.

(2) The infantile mortality rate per 1000 births registered varied between 75 and 151·5.

(3) Of the total number of deaths in all the districts 22·8 per cent. occurred in infants under 12 months of age.

(4) Of this number (156)—68 resulted from wasting diseases ; 12 from diarrhœal diseases ; 12 from convulsions ; 31 from bronchitis and pneumonia ; 6 from tubercular diseases ; 13 from infectious diseases.

(5) Of deaths among persons over 25 years of age, heart disease caused 41 ; bronchitis and pneumonia 62 ; cancer and other malignant diseases 34.

(6) Of the 59 deaths among persons between the ages of 5 and 25, 16 resulted from tuberculous and 7 from infectious diseases.

(7) Of the 82 deaths in children between one and five, 9 were due to tuberculosis and 31 infectious diseases.

Table showing the number of Deaths in the several districts
from the causes named.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Guisbro' Rural.	Guisbro' Urban.	Loftus.	Redcar.	Saltburn.	Skelton and Brotton.	Totals.
Small-pox	...	...					
Measles	...	...	4	3	4	1		8	20
Scarlet fever	...	...					
Whooping cough	...	...	2		2			5	9
Diphtheria and membranous croup	...	...	4	2	9	1		5	21
Croup.	...	...			1				1
Fever	Typhus	...							
	Enteric	...		1					1
	Other continued	...							
Epidemic influenza	...	...					
Cholera	...	...					
Plague	...	...					
Diarrhœa	...	...			1	1			2
Enteritis	...	...						3	3
Puerperal fever	...	...		1	1				2
Erysipelas	...	...					
Other septic diseases	...	...		1				2	3
Phthisis	...	...	6	4	8	4	5	15	42
Other tubercular diseases	...	...	2	9	3	3		10	27
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	2	3	4	12	1	12	34
Bronchitis	...	...	5	6	10	8	2	18	49
Pneumonia	...	...	10	15	5	13	4	18	65
Pleurisy	...	...				1			1
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...					
Alcoholism	}	...		1		2	1	3	7
Cirrhosis of liver		...							
Venereal diseases	...	...					
Premature birth	...	...	2	7	3	7	1	11	31
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...	...	2	1	1			4	8
Heart diseases	...	...	7	13	4	9	4	8	45
Accidents	...	...	5	1	8	10	1	6	31
Suicides	...	...		1	1			3	5
All other causes	...	...	53	30	47	51	19	75	275
All causes	...	...	104	99	112	123	38	206	682

Special Reports.

DATE.	DISTRICT.	SUBJECT.	RECOMMENDATION.
Feb. 8th	Loftus	Whooping-cough	Closure of Loftus Infant school for 4 weeks.
„ 8th	Loftus	Measles	Closure of Skinningrove Infant school for 4 weeks.
„ 22nd	Loftus	Measles	Closure of Skinningrove Mixed school for 3 weeks.
Mar. 16th	Loftus	Measles	Closure of Liverton Mine school for 4 weeks.
May 1st	Skelton & Brotton	Measles	Closure of Lingdale school for 5 weeks.
„ 31st	Guisbro' Rural ..	Measles and Mumps ...	Closure of Easington school for 5 weeks.
„ 31st	Redcar	Measles	Closure of Zetland Infant school for 3 weeks.
June 4th	Skelton & Brotton	Diphtheria	
„ 21st	Redcar	Measles	Closure of Ex-Wesleyan school for 5 weeks.
Aug. 30th	Guisbro' Rural ...	Measles and Whooping-cough	Closure of Lazenby Infant school for 4 weeks.
Sept. 3rd	Guisbro' Urban ...	Measles	Closure of Northgate Infant school for 5 weeks.
„ 10th	Guisbro' Urban ...	Measles	Closure of Providence Infant school for 4 weeks.
„ 17th	Guisbro' Urban ...	Measles	Closure of Northgate & Providence mixed schools for 3 weeks.
Oct. 6th	Guisbro' Rural ...	Measles	Closure of Westerdale school for 4 weeks.
Nov. 8th	Guisbro' Rural ...	Measles	Closure of Yearby school for 4 weeks.
Dec. 6th	Loftus	Diphtheria... ..	

To the Chairman and Members of the Guisborough Rural Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 200 (118 males, 82 females),—birth rate 25·31 : the average rate during the ten years 1897-1906 was 29·38. The deaths numbered 104 (65 males, 39 females),—death rate 13·16 :—the average for the years 1897-1906 was 14·63. The death rate from infectious diseases was 1·26. No death resulted from any of the diarrhoeal diseases. The infantile mortality rate, per 1000 births registered, was 75·0, this is much below the average of the preceding ten years.

Under the Notification Act, 47 cases of diphtheria, 5 of erysipelas, three of scarlet fever and 1 of enteric fever, were reported. These occurred in the several Parishes as follows :—

Wilton	-	diphtheria 5,	scarlet fever, 2.	erysipelas 1,	enteric fever, 0.
Marske	-	do. 39,	do. 1,	do. 4,	do. 1.
Easington	-	do. 2,	do. 0,	do. 0,	do. 0.
Upsall	-	do. 1,	do. 0,	do. 0,	do. 0.

No case of infectious disease was reported in any of the following parishes :—Hutton, Danby, Newton, Morton, Upleatham, Kirkleatham, Westerdale. Of the 39 cases of diphtheria in the Marske parish 31 occurred (in 26 houses) at New Marske, three having a fatal termination :—of the five in the Wilton parish one ended fatally.

Factories and Workshops :—the number of these on the register is 51. During the year 49 were inspected by me and 22 by the Inspector of Nuisances. Nothing was noted concerning them calling for special remark. By far the larger number are “domestic workshops.” The Act defines a domestic workshop as a private house, room, or place which, though used as a dwelling, is by reason of the work carried on there a workshop and in which the only persons employed are members of the same family dwelling there.

Of the 46 cowsheds on the Register 42 were inspected by me during the year. Notices are sent twice a year to cowkeepers reminding them of the regulation as to white-washing and cleansing.

All the slaughter-houses were inspected by me :—it was necessary to warn one butcher that if his premises were not maintained in a cleanly condition proceedings would be taken against him.

Scavenging at the following places is carried out by contract :—Ainthorpe, Castleton, Danby, Dunsdale, Kirkleatham, Lackenby, Lazenby, Marske, New Marske.

On my recommendation the pipes carrying off rain water from the houses at New Marske, which discharged direct into the sewer were disconnected therefrom. Steps are also being taken to prevent as far as possible the washing of silt into the sewer by storm water and to utilise such water for flushing.

To increase the water supply at Newton the flow from another spring was conducted to the reservoir which supplies the village. So soon as the necessary legal and other formalities are complied with the work of increasing the water supply at Castleton and improving that at Ainthorpe will be proceeded with. Samples of the waters to be utilised were taken, during dry weather and wet :—analysis showed these to be suitable for domestic purposes.

To prevent the pollution of the beck at Castleton by crude sewage the Council has given instructions for the construction of a settling tank. At Newton steps are being taken to prevent a nuisance caused by the discharge of sewage into a ditch.

The usual systematic inspections of the district were made by me, sometimes in company with the Inspector of Nuisances.

The following is a list of defects remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	20.
Closets and ashpits repaired	-	18.
Pan closets substituted for ordinary		13.
Water closet	do.	1.
Other defects remedied	-	14.
Rooms disinfected	-	46.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn-by-Sea,

January 18th, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Guisborough Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 215 (121 males, 94 females)—birth rate 35·83 :—the deaths (corrected) 99 (55 males, 44 females)—death rate 16·50. Measles caused three deaths, diphtheria two, enteric fever one, puerperal fever one :—infectious diseases death rate 1·17.

Of the thirty-four cases of infectious diseases notified 14 were scarlet fever, 14 erysipelas, 5 diphtheria, and 1 enteric fever.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act 117 inspections were made. Of the 53 factories and workshops on the Register I inspected 50. Notices were served on the occupiers of two workshops to cleanse the same.

Of the 27 cowsheds on the Register 25 were inspected by me. Notices calling attention to the regulation re the cleansing of cowsheds were forwarded to all cowkeepers. The Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops Order of 1885 requires the Local Authority to “from time to time “give public notice by advertisement in a newspaper circulating in their District, and, if they “think fit, by placards, handbills, or otherwise, of registration being required, and of the mode “of registration.” It is desirable that this be done systematically and periodically.

The slaughterhouses were visited from time to time. It was found necessary to call attention to the need of more frequent removal of offal. A special visit was paid to a slaughter-house for the purpose of examining a carcase which there was reason to believe was unfit for food :—the carcase was in good condition, nothing was found to indicate that it was unfit for food.

The scavenging was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The two common lodginghouses were visited :—both were in good order.

Thirty-seven houses were built during the year,—fourteen are in course of erection.

Inspections of the district were made by me from time to time, generally in company with Mr. Kilburn, the Inspector of Nuisances. The following is a list of defects remedied during the year, etc. :—

House yards repaired	-	27.
Drains do.	-	24.
Closets, etc. do.	-	64.
Overcrowding abated	-	4.
New closet pans supplied	-	44.
Other defects remedied	-	28.
Rooms disinfected	-	23.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Salthurn,

January 20th, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the Loftus Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 224 (112 males, 112 females)—birth rate 34·24 :—the deaths 112 (54 males, 58 females)—death rate 14·93. Measles caused 4 deaths, diphtheria 9, whooping cough 2 :—infectious disease death rate 2·01.

Under the Notification Act there were reported 36 cases of scarlet fever, 57 of diphtheria, 19 of erysipelas, and 2 of puerperal fever. The 36 of scarlet fever occurred in 26 houses, all in Loftus proper. Of the 57 of diphtheria 47 occurred in Loftus proper, 8 at Liverton Mines, and 2 in Skinningrove. Neither at Carlin-How nor at Old Liverton did any case of scarlet fever or diphtheria occur. Particulars of the cases of diphtheria are given in the *general* report.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act 79 inspections were made. Of the 51 on the Register 49 were visited by me. At one Factory closet accommodation was provided in compliance with the notice served.

The whole of the 27 cowsheds on the Register were inspected by me. Some of these were not at the time of inspection on the Register. It is desirable that notices should be issued periodically calling attention to the clause in the Dairies, Cow-sheds, etc. Order requiring registration.

All the slaughter houses were inspected :—nothing was noted calling for special remark.

Visits paid to the common lodginghouse showed it to be maintained in excellent condition.

The work of extending the Loftus sewer cannot be commenced until the consent of the Local Government Board is received ; the Council awaits this.

The Sanatorium was used once during the year,—the patient sent thereto was suffering from diphtheria.

Every part of the district has been inspected by me, generally in company with Mr. Tarbit, the Inspector of Nuisances. The following is a list of defects, etc. remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	6.
Closets, ashpits, etc. repaired		18.
Drains	-	3.
Other defects remedied	-	9.
Rooms disinfected	-	80.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn-by-Sea,

January 20th, 1908.

To the Chairman and
Members of the Redcar Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 272 (149 males, 123 females)—birth rate 25·28 :—the deaths 123 (77 males, 46 females)—death rate 11·18. Deducting the deaths of seven persons not belonging the district whose bodies were found on the beach, the death rate is reduced to 10·5. The infantile mortality rate, 106·9, was slightly in excess of that in the previous year but is below the average of the ten years 1897-1906. The infectious diseases death rate was low, 0·18 ; so was that from diarrhoeal diseases, 0·27.

Under the Notification Act 64 cases of infectious diseases were reported, viz.—32 of diphtheria, 36 of scarlet fever, 2 of enteric fever, and 2 of erysipelas. Ten of the scarlet fever patients were removed to the Sanatorium. Particulars of the cases of diphtheria are given in the *general* report.

It is to be regretted that I have again to call attention to the lack of adequate provision for the isolation of infectious cases. That the cottage at present used for this purpose is inadequate is admitted by all. It continually requires repairs to keep it in even decent habitable condition. It is in a bad situation. That a seaside town with a population of 11,000 and visited by thousands in the summer should be without suitable accommodation for the isolation of infectious cases is not a credit to its inhabitants. The town is rapidly growing ;—during the year 158 houses were built and 35 are in course of erection.

The scavenging has been carried out satisfactorily. The disposal of house and closet refuse becomes year by year increasingly difficult. When tipped on land near the town it is offensive to the eyes and nose and becomes a breeding ground for hosts of flies. The paper blown therefrom into the hedges certainly does not lend attraction to the town.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act 175 inspections were made. The whole of the factories, workshops, and workplaces on the Register (81) were inspected by me. Six notices to abate nuisances were served and complied with.

Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act two houses were condemned by me as unfit for habitation ;—one has been repaired, the other is to be pulled down.

All the slaughterhouses were inspected from time to time :—notices to remedy defects were served on three butchers ; all complied with.

The whole of the cowsheds on the Register (22) were inspected by me : notices calling attention to the regulation as to cleansing of these were forwarded to all the cowkeepers. It is desirable that notices should be issued periodically calling attention to the clause in the Dairies, Cow-sheds, etc. Order requiring registration of milk-sellers and cowkeepers.

Systematic inspections of the district were made from time to time, in some of these the Inspector of Nuisances accompanied me. Matters noted requiring attention were reported to the Sanitary Committee at its monthly meetings. The defects remedied and nuisances abated during the year are as follows :—

House yards repaired	-	13.
Drains do.	-	107.
Closets and ashpits repaired	-	51.
Other defects remedied	-	23.
Rooms disinfected	-	70.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 20th, 1908.

**To the Chairman and Members
of the Saltburn-by-the-Sea Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 67 (30 males, 37 females)—birth rate 18·10 :—the deaths 38 (14 males, 24 females)—death rate 10·27. No death resulted from any infectious disease. Of the nine deaths of infants under one year four were due to wasting diseases, two to meningitis, and one each to convulsions, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

The only case reported under the Notification Act was one of scarlet fever.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act 70 inspections were made. Of the 44 factories and workshops on the Register I visited 43.

All the cowsheds and dairies (6) were inspected by me :—it was found necessary to serve a notice on one cowkeeper requiring him to comply with the regulation as to lime-washing.

The slaughter-houses were inspected from time to time.

A special examination of water-closets in the older houses was made,—some of these (7) of the pan type, being found defective were altered, modern wash-out pans being substituted.

During the summer months the daily removal of refuse was provided for :—special inspections made by me showed that comparatively few householders took advantage of this provision.

I reported that it was necessary to take steps to prevent the pollution of the beck flowing through Hazelgrove ; this matter is receiving attention :—also that the floor of a sewer manhole required such alteration as would prevent deposit therein ;—the necessary work was carried out.

Attention was drawn by me to the fact that the traps of some of the openings by which surface water is carried off into the sewer were defective ;—instructions were given by the Council for such to be replaced by a better type.

The following is a list of defects remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	16.
Ashpits, &c. repaired	-	31.
Drains do.	-	20.
Other defects remedied	-	50.
Rooms disinfected	-	9.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 22nd, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the Skelton and Brotton Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 468 (244 males, 224 females)—birth rate 32·50 :—the deaths 206 (111 males, 95 females)—death rate 14·30. The infantile mortality rate, per 1000 births registered, 91·8 is considerably below the average (150·5) of the ten years 1897-1906. Of the deaths among infants a little over half resulted from “wasting diseases.” The infectious diseases death rate was 1·25 : measles caused eight deaths, diphtheria and membranous croup five, and whooping-cough five.

Under the Notification Act 40 cases of infectious diseases were reported ; the average number per annum during the ten years, 1897-1906, was 121.

The following Table shows the number of these in the several places named :—

Place.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric fever.	Erysipelas.
Charlton's Cottages ...	0	1	0	0
Carlin How ...	0	0	0	0
Boosbeck ...	2	0	1	3
Brotton ...	4	8	0	4
Lingdale ...	0	5	0	1
Moorsholm ...	0	0	0	0
New Skelton ...	0	0	0	1
North Skelton ...	2	0	0	2
Skelton ...	0	0	0	2
Skelton Green ...	1	0	0	1
Margrove Park ...	0	0	0	0
Detached houses ...	2	0	0	0
TOTALS ...	11	14	1	14

Under the Factory and Workshop Act 71 inspections were made. Of the 50 factories and workshops on the Register 48 were inspected by me.

The whole of the slaughterhouses were inspected by me :—one was reported to the Council as not being maintained in a cleanly condition ; notice was served upon the occupier.

All the cowsheds on the Register (27) were inspected by me ;—five were found defective (insufficiently lighted, without adequate ventilation, etc.) :—notices were served on the responsible parties to carry out the required alterations, etc. ; of these 2 have been complied with.

Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act two houses were condemned as unfit for habitation :—both were repaired.

The scavenging has been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Twenty-four houses were erected during the year, twenty-six are in course of erection.

The various parts of the district were inspected by me from time to time ;—particulars of matters noted requiring attention were reported to the Council at its monthly meetings. The following is a list of defects remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	39.
Drains do.	-	12.
Closets, ashpits, do.	-	41.
Other defects remedied	-	63.
Rooms disinfected	-	45.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 22nd, 1908.

